



California moves toward phasing out gas-fueled vehicles



Electric cars are parked at a charging station in Sacramento, Calif., on April 13, 2022.

Associated Press

By KATHLEEN RONAYNE

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — California plans to require all new cars, trucks and SUVs to run on electricity or hydrogen by 2035 under a policy approved Thursday by regulators that seeks a dramatic cut in carbon emissions and an eventual end to gasoline-powered vehicles.

The decision by the California Air Resources Board came two years after Gov. Gavin Newsom first directed regulators to consider such a policy. If the goal is reached, California would cut emissions from cars in half by 2040. The move gives the most populous U.S. state the world's most stringent regulations for transitioning to electric vehicles. It is expected to prompt other states to follow California's lead and to accelerate the production of zero-emission vehicles by automakers.

Board member Daniel Sperling, found-

ing Director of the Institute of Transportation Studies at the University of California, Davis, called the vote "the most important and transformative action" the air board has ever taken. The policy still needs federal approval but that's considered very likely under Democratic President Joe Biden's administration. It allows Californians to keep driving gas-powered vehicles and buying used ones after 2035, but no new models would be sold in the state.

One-fifth of automakers' sales after 2035 could be plug-in hybrids, which run on batteries and gas, but the rest must be powered solely by electricity or hydrogen.

The European Parliament in June backed a plan to effectively prohibit the sale of gas and diesel cars in the 27-nation European Union by 2035, and Canada has mandated the sale of zero-emission cars by the same year.

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Baby Beach Waterfront Promenade project continues



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Detecting Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease in Aruba



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California moves toward phasing out gas-fueled vehicles

Continued from From

California climate officials say the state's new policy is the world's most ambitious because it sets benchmarks for ramping up electric vehicle sales over the next 13 years.

The first mandated threshold comes in 2026, when one-third of all vehicles sold in the state must be zero-emission. Automakers could be fined \$20,000 per vehicle sold short of that goal.

About 16% of cars sold in California in the first three months of this year were electric. The air board is working on separate emissions rules for motorcycles and diesel trucks.

Washington state and Massachusetts already have said they will follow California's lead and many more are likely to — New York and Pennsylvania are among 17 states that have adopted some or all of California's tailpipe emission standards that are stricter than federal rules.

Kia Corp.'s Laurie Holmes said the company plans to spend \$25 billion by 2025 on electric vehicles and hopes to offer seven models by 2027.

But she and several other representatives for auto companies expressed concern about the state's timeline given factors such



Electric vehicles can be seen charging at a shopping center in Emeryville, Calif., on Aug. 10, 2022.

Associated Press

as supply chain challenges and the high cost of materials to build electric cars.

"Automakers could have significant difficulties meeting this target given elements outside of the control of the industry," she said.

The switch from gas to electric cars will drastically reduce emissions and air pollutants. Transportation is the single largest source of emissions in the state, accounting for about 40% of the state's greenhouse gas emissions. But the transition will be painful for the state's oil industry. California remains the seventh-largest

oil-producing U.S. state, though its output is falling as it pushes forward with climate goals.

California shouldn't wrap its entire transportation strategy around a vehicle market powered by electricity, said Tanya DeRivi, vice president for climate policy with the Western States Petroleum Association, an oil industry group.

"Californians should be able to choose a vehicle technology, including electric vehicles, that best fits their needs based on availability, affordability, and personal necessity,"

she said.

California is the nation's most populous state, with about 39 million people. They account for 10% of the U.S. car market but have 43% of the nation's 2.6 million registered plug-in vehicles, according to the air board.

Reaching the 100% goal by 2035 will mean overcoming very practical hurdles, notably enough reliable power and charging stations. California now has about 80,000 stations in public places, far short of the 250,000 it wants by 2025. The Alliance for Automotive

Innovation, which represents many major car makers, warned about the lack of infrastructure, access to materials needed to make batteries, and supply chain issues as being among the challenges to meeting the state's timeline.

The new commitment came as California works to maintain reliable electricity while it moves away from gas-fired power plants in favor of solar, wind and other cleaner sources of energy. Earlier this year, top California energy officials warned the state could run out of power during the hottest days of summer, which happened briefly in August 2020. That hasn't happened yet this year. But Newsom, a Democrat, is pushing to keep open the state's last-remaining nuclear plant beyond its planned closer in 2025, and the state may turn to diesel generators or natural gas plants as a backup when the electrical grid is strained.

Adding more car chargers will put a higher demand on the energy grid.

Ensuring access to charging stations is also key to ramping up electric vehicle sales. The infrastructure bill passed by Congress last year provides \$5 billion for states to build charges every 50 miles (80 kilometers) along interstate highways. □



WASHINGTON (AP) — The Biden administration on Wednesday unveiled a regulation aimed at fending off legal challenges to a decade-old program that shields immigrants from deportation if they arrived as young children.

The rule isn't scheduled to take effect until Oct. 31 and its fate is tied to a lawsuit by Texas and other Republican-led states.

The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program has been closed to new registrants since July

Biden seeks to bolster legal protection for DACA recipients

2021 while the case winds its way through the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Its 453 pages are largely technical and represent little substantive change from the 2012 memo that created DACA, but it was subject to public comments as part of a formal rule-making process intended to improve its chances of surviving legal muster.

President Joe Biden said he would do "everything within my power" to protect DACA recipients while renewing a call for legislation to provide them a pathway

to citizenship.

"Dreamers are part of the fabric of this nation," said Biden, using a common name for the young immigrants. "They've only ever known America as their home."

The rule keeps eligibility criteria the same, disappointing some DACA advocates who wanted to allow more immigrants to qualify. Applicants must prove they arrived in the U.S. by age 16 before June 2007.

More than 600,000 immigrants were enrolled in DACA at the end of March,

about 80% from Mexico and many of the rest from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, according to government figures.

In July, the New Orleans-based appeals court heard arguments that ending the Obama-era program would cruelly upend the lives of hundreds of thousands who have grown up to become tax-paying, productive drivers of the U.S. economy.

Opponents argued that DACA has cost taxpayers for health care and other services. □

Judge orders unsealing of redacted affidavit in Trump search

By **ERIC TUCKER**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A judge ordered the Justice Department on Thursday to make public a redacted version of the affidavit it relied on when federal agents searched the Florida estate of former President Donald Trump to look for classified documents.

The directive from U.S. Magistrate Judge Bruce Reinhart came hours after federal law enforcement officials submitted under seal the portions of the affidavit that they want to keep secret as their investigation moves forward. The judge set a deadline of noon Friday for a redacted, or blacked-out, version of the document.

The order means the public could soon get at least some additional details about what led FBI officials to search Mar-a-Lago on Aug. 8 as part of an investigation into classified documents being retained at the Palm Beach property. Documents already made public as part of the investigation show that the FBI retrieved from the property 11 sets of classified documents, including information marked at the top secret level.

Search warrant affidavits typically contain vital in-



An aerial view of President Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago estate Aug. 10, 2022, in Palm Beach, Fla. Associated Press

formation about an investigation, with agents spelling out why they want to search a particular property and why they believe they are likely to find evidence of a potential crime there.

In this case, though, the redactions proposed by the Justice Department are likely to be extensive given the sensitivity of the investigation and unprecedented nature of the search, lessening the chance that the public will receive a detailed glimpse of the basis for the search or the direction of the probe.

In his order Thursday, Reinhart said the department

had made compelling arguments to leave sealed broad swaths of the document that, if disclosed, would reveal grand jury information; the identities of witnesses and "uncharged parties"; and details about the investigation's "strategy, direction, scope, sources and methods."

But he also said he was satisfied "that the Government has met its burden of showing that its proposed redactions are narrowly tailored to serve the Government's legitimate interest in the integrity of the ongoing investigation and are the least onerous alternative to sealing the entire Affidavit."

The department had earlier contested arguments by media organizations to make any portion of the affidavit public, saying the disclosure could contain private information about witnesses and about investigative tactics. But Reinhart, acknowledging the extraordinary public interest in the investigation, said last week that he was disinclined to keep the entire document sealed and told federal officials to submit to him in private the redactions it wanted to make.

Multiple news media organizations, including The Associated Press, argued in court last week for the

disclosure of the affidavit, citing the extraordinary public interest in the federal search of a former president's home. Trump and some of his supporters have also encouraged the document's release.

After the Justice Department submitted its filing under seal on Thursday, the media coalition responded by asking the judge to unseal portions of the department's brief and to direct the government, "going forward," to file publicly a redacted version of any sealed document it submits. The groups noted that significant information about the investigation is already public.

"At a minimum, any portions of the Brief that recite those facts about the investigation, without revealing additional ones not yet publicly available — in addition to any other portions that pose no threat to the investigation — should be unsealed," the news organizations wrote.

They added, "If and when additional facts come to light and are confirmed to be accurate, or certain facts no longer pose a threat to the investigation for any other reason, there is no justification for maintaining them under seal either." □

24 states get \$560M for high-priority cleanup of wells

By **JANET McCONNAUGHEY**

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The Interior Department is giving 24 states a total of \$560 million to start cleaning high-priority derelict oil and gas wells abandoned on state and private land, the department said Thursday. It said up to 10,000 wells could be dealt with as the government begins allocating \$4.7 billion set aside to create an orphan well cleanup program under the bipartisan infrastructure plan approved late last year. The Environmental Protection Agency estimates there are more than 3 million abandoned oil

and gas wells around the nation.

The infrastructure law "is enabling us to confront long-standing environmental injustices by making a historic investment to plug orphaned wells throughout the country," Secretary Deb Haaland said in a news release.

A dozen states including Arkansas, Kansas, New Mexico and Ohio, have prioritized wells in disadvantaged communities, the department said.

Louisiana said it would plug 250 to 900 wells near low-income communities, providing a chance for unemployed energy workers

from such areas to learn how to plug orphaned wells and to get work doing so, a separate release said. Most of the states are getting \$25 million each to clean wells and measure methane, with 15 using some of the money to enable measurement of the potent greenhouse gas.

Arkansas, which has 227 wells on its priority list, and Mississippi, which plans to use part of its grant to inventory orphaned wells, are getting \$5 million each. In April, the department announced \$33 million to cap and clean up 277 wells on federal land.

States have identified any-



An oil well worker helps to re-plug an abandoned well on the ranch of Ashley Williams Watt, Friday, July 9, 2021, near Crane, Texas. Associated Press

where from a dozen to more than 2,000 wells to plug with these initial grants, the department said.

"The number of wells varies based on the remoteness, well depth, site conditions

and previous activity at the well site as well as other state considerations, such as the number of existing staff and whether the state has preexisting well plugging contracts," it said. □

Court: Arkansas can't ban treatment of transgender kids

By **ANDREW DeMILLO**

Associated Press

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) —

A federal appeals court on Thursday said Arkansas can't enforce its ban on transgender children receiving gender-affirming medical care.

A three-judge panel of the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed a judge's ruling temporarily blocking the state from enforcing the 2021 law. A trial is scheduled for October before the same judge on whether to permanently block the law.

Arkansas was the first state to enact such a ban, which prohibits doctors from providing gender-confirming hormone treatment, puberty blockers or surgery to anyone under 18 years old, or from referring them to other providers for the treatment. There are no doctors who perform gender-affirming surgery on minors in the state.

"Because the minor's sex at birth determines whether or not the minor can receive certain types of medical care under the law, Act 626 discriminates on the basis of sex," the court's ruling Thursday said.

The American Civil Liberties Union challenged the law on behalf of four transgender youth and their families, as well as two doctors who provide gender-confirming



Dylan Brandt speaks at a news conference outside the federal courthouse in Little Rock, Ark., on Wednesday, July 21, 2021.

Associated Press

treatments.

"The Eighth Circuit was abundantly clear that the state's ban on care does not advance any important governmental interest and the state's defense of the law is lacking in legal or evidentiary support," Chase Strangio, deputy director for Transgender Justice at the ACLU's LGBTQ & HIV Project, said in a statement. "The state has no business categorically singling out this care for prohibition."

Arkansas argued that the restriction is within the state's authority to regulate medical practices.

Republican Attorney General Leslie Rutledge will ask the full 8th Circuit Court of Appeals to review the ruling, said spokeswoman Amanda Priest, adding that Rutledge was "extremely disappointed in today's dangerously wrong decision by the three-judge panel."

The 8th Circuit covers Arkansas, Iowa, Minnesota,

Missouri, Nebraska and the Dakotas. The ruling on Arkansas' law comes after the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals that covers Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia ruled last week that gender dysphoria is covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Experts and advocates have said that decision could help block conservative political efforts to restrict access to gender-affirming care.

Republican Gov. Asa

Hutchinson vetoed Arkansas' ban last year, and GOP lawmakers overrode him. Pediatricians, social workers and the parents of transgender youth said the measure would harm a community already at risk for depression and suicide. Hutchinson has said he would signed such legislation if it only focused on gender-confirming surgery. On Thursday, he called Arkansas' ban the "most extreme law in the country" and urged lawmakers to scale it back next year "with a more narrow focus to protect our children."

"No other state has passed such a law that interferes with a parent making health care decisions for minor children based upon a doctor's recommendations when the recommendations are based upon generally accepted medical guidance," Hutchinson, who leaves office in January, said in a statement.

Multiple medical groups, including the American Medical Association, oppose the ban and have said the care is safe if properly administered. The Justice Department has also opposed the ban as unconstitutional.

An attorney for the ACLU told the appeals panel in June that reinstating the restriction would create uncertainty for families. □



Health aide Angela Martin helps former Detroit Red Wings star Vladimir Konstantinov into his wheelchair on Tuesday, May 17, 2022, in West Bloomfield, Mich.

Associated Press

By **ED WHITE**

Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — Major changes in Michigan car insurance law do not apply to people who were cata-

strophically injured before the summer of 2019, the state appeals court said Thursday, a victory for long-term victims of motor vehicle crashes and their care

Long-term victims of car crashes win key Michigan decision

providers. In a 2-1 opinion, the court said lawmakers "did not clearly demonstrate" that insurance payment cuts would be applied retroactively.

And even if those changes were intended to be retroactive, that step violates contract protections in the Michigan Constitution, Judge Douglas Shapiro wrote. "Giving a windfall to insurance companies who received premiums for unlimited benefits is not a legitimate public purpose, nor a reasonable means to reform the system," Shapiro said in a decision joined by

Judge Sima Patel.

In an effort to lower Michigan's insurance rates, which were among the highest in the U.S., the Republican-controlled Legislature and Democratic Gov. Gretchen Whitmer agreed to sweeping changes in 2019.

For decades, people injured in crashes were entitled to payment for "all reasonable charges" related to care and rehabilitation. But the new law sets a fee schedule and a cap on reimbursements not covered by Medicare.

It's had drastic conse-

quences for roughly 18,000 people needing long-term care after crashes that took place before June 11, 2019, and the providers of those services.

Hockey star Vladimir Konstantinov suffered severe brain damage when a drunken limousine driver crashed the car in 1997. Konstantinov, a passenger, was celebrating a championship by the NHL's Detroit Red Wings.

By last spring, Arcadia Home Care & Staffing said it had lost \$200,000 for Konstantinov's care due to the 2019 law. □

Dutch agencies help migrants sleeping outside crowded camp

By MIKE CORDER

Associated Press

TER APEL, Netherlands (AP)

— Dutch aid agencies tended Thursday to hundreds of migrants camped in sweltering heat outside an overcrowded center for asylum-seekers as Dutch authorities investigated the death of a baby in the center a day earlier.

The Dutch arm of Doctors Without Borders deployed medics to the tiny village of Ter Apel in the northeastern Netherlands to give first aid and other assistance. A mobile hospital was expected to arrive Friday, the organization's national director, Judith Sargentini, said. It is the first time the humanitarian group was called in to assist with a Dutch crisis.

For two nights running, some 700 people have slept outdoors because the asylum reception center with an official capacity of 2,000 does not have space for them and the Dutch government is scrambling to find emergency accommodation. With temperatures above 30 degrees Celsius (86 degrees Fahrenheit) on Thursday, migrants lay listlessly on blankets under four canvas shades held up by wooden poles.



Hundreds of migrants seek shelter outside an overcrowded asylum seekers center in Ter Apel, northern Netherlands, Thursday, Aug. 25, 2022.

Associated Press

Some sheltered in the shadow of a Red Cross station which had Wi-Fi and power for charging their phones. Others squabbled as they tried to board a bus to a nearby town. Inside a tent, a medic checked people who wanted care. Blue plastic children's paddling pools were set up as washing stations, and a small row of portable toilets stood near the covered areas. Sargentini compared the

situation to overcrowded migrant camps in Greece. "These are 700 people sleeping rough: no showers, very bad facilities, no health care from the institutions," Sargentini told The Associated Press. "And it might not be as crowded as on the Greek isles, but if you come here after a long journey as a refugee, you think you find safety, but you find neglect. And you sleep like this. Even if you

are healthy, you'll get sick here." She said two people were hospitalized Thursday a man who had a heart attack and another who did not have medication for his diabetes. State Secretary for Asylum and Migration Eric van der Burg told reporters he was "deeply shocked" by the death of the 3-month-old baby. The cause of death was under investigation, he said. "I'm surprised from the

bad conditions here because I didn't hear about it," he said. A number of factors have created the crisis in Ter Apel. It can take months or more to process the asylum applications of migrants arriving from so-called "safe countries" who ultimately are not entitled to stay. A housing crisis means refugees often have nowhere to go once they have been granted a residency permit and therefore stay on at asylum-seeker centers. While many Dutch towns and cities offered places for Ukrainians who fled the war in their country, the welcome mat has worn thin for asylum-seekers from other countries. The majority of people arriving in Ter Apel are Syrians fleeing their nation's grinding civil war. "There's about 60,000 Ukrainians in municipalities that are being housed there, and there you can see it was possible. But when it comes to non-Ukrainian refugees — people here are mostly from Syria, from Turkey, Afghanistan — municipalities still look the other way," said Sander Schaap of refugee aid group VluchtelingenWerk. □

U.S. envoy says Russian invasion speeds shift to clean energy

By ROD McGUIRK

Associated Press

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)

— Russia's invasion of Ukraine will accelerate the world's shift to renewable energy because of price shocks in oil and gas, a U.S. climate envoy said Thursday.

U.S. Deputy Special Envoy for Climate Rick Duke was speaking at an Australian National University forum after meetings with Australian government officials on bilateral cooperation in transitioning to net-zero greenhouse emissions by 2050.

Duke described the Russian invasion that began six months ago as "one of the biggest geopolitical drivers at the moment" for a glob-

al shift toward renewable energy. "What has sometimes been lost in people's

understanding of the reverberations on that front is that when you look at what

countries are actually doing in response, it's going to accelerate the energy transition," Duke said.

"The European Union has tripled down on its efforts to deploy renewables and heat pumps and to electrify its vehicle fleet and otherwise respond to this crisis," he added. "That's going to take time ... but the pace is quickening because of the conflict."

Meanwhile, Australia plans to reduce its heavy reliance on solar panels manufactured in China, a Russian ally, by diversifying its trading partners as the Australian government scales up its transition to renewables. Kushla Munro, who heads the government's International Climate Division, said

Australia was focusing on India in developing an international collaboration on the production of solar panels and green hydrogen.

Australia had also prioritized green energy technology partnerships with Japan, South Korea and the United States to avoid the supply chain constraints that have arisen through the pandemic, Munro said. The Australian government elected in May has increased Australia's 2030 emissions reduction target to 42% from the previous administration's goal of 26% to 28% below 2005 levels. The United States is aiming for a 50% to 52% reduction by the end of the decade. □



In this photo provided by the Australian National University, U.S. Deputy Special Envoy for Climate Rick Duke speaks at an Australian National University forum in Canberra, Australia, Thursday, Aug. 25, 2022, after meetings with Australian government officials on bilateral cooperation in transitioning to net-zero greenhouse emissions by 2050.

Associated Press

British sewage overflows stink up relations across Channel

PARIS (AP) — EU lawmakers have a new, post-Brexit reason to be annoyed with the U.K.: British sewage overflows seeping into the English Channel and the North Sea.

Heavy rainfall after weeks of dry weather overwhelmed parts of Britain's sewage system last week, causing untreated wastewater to be discharged into rivers and seas. The problem is a long-running issue in Britain, where regulators are investigating possible permit violations by six major water companies and environmental groups allege the firms have failed to make needed repairs.

This is mainly a problem for the U.K., where people were warned to stay away from dozens of beaches last week, raising concerns about public health and the damage to wildlife. The activist group Surfers Against Sewage reported 654 alerts of sewer overflows spilling sewage into bathing waters this summer from 171 locations in England and Wales.

But three French members of the European Parliament sent a letter to the



An activist sits on a toilet at the entrance to Downing Street to protest against raw sewage dumping in the rivers and seas around the UK in London, on Oct. 26, 2021.

Associated Press

European Commission on Wednesday warning that the sewage could also threaten bathing waters, fishing grounds and biodiversity in the European Union.

"The English Channel and the North Sea are not dumping grounds," said Stephanie Yon-Courtin, a member of the European Parliament's fishing com-

mittee and a local lawmaker in Normandy.

"We can't tolerate that the environment, the economic activity of our fishers and the health of our citizens is put into grave danger by repeated negligence of the United Kingdom in the management of its sewage water," she said.

The lawmakers asked the Commission "to use all the

political and legal means in its possession" to find a solution, accusing the U.K. of violating its post-Brexit trade deal with the EU. They said while the U.K. is no longer held to EU environmental standards, it is still a signatory to the U.N. convention on maritime rights and obligated to protect shared seawater.

The European Commission

said it had not contacted London so far about the complaints. "We will take further the matter as appropriate," Commission spokeswoman Dana Spinant said Thursday.

Britain's Conservative government has rejected the criticism, saying it has strengthened water quality regulations since Brexit.

"Unhelpful and ill-informed comments like this shouldn't distract from the work we are doing to further protect our rivers and sea," said Steve Double, the U.K. water minister. "We have already made it law for water companies to reduce the frequency and volume of sewage discharges, and our upcoming Storm Overflows Discharge Reduction Plan will require water companies to deliver the largest infrastructure program in water company history."

But last week the opposition Liberal Democrats released a report alleging that wastewater discharges weren't being properly recorded because many of the required monitoring devices either weren't working properly or hadn't been installed yet. □



President Alberto Fernandez attends the swearing-in ceremony of his new Economy Minister Silvina Batakis at the government house in Buenos Aires, Argentina, July 4, 2022.

Associated Press

By **DANIEL POLITI**
Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — President Alberto Fernández was engulfed in controversy Thursday after saying he hoped the prosecutor leading a corruption trial against Vice President Cristina Fernández de Kirchner does not kill himself like, he claims, another

prosecutor did after pressing charges against her.

The main opposition coalition, United for Change, characterized Fernandez's statements as "a veiled threat against the federal prosecutor's personal safety." Some political leaders said they would seek charges against him.

Alberto Nisman died from a

Argentina president accused of threatening prosecutor

gunshot wound in January 2015, a day before he was scheduled to present evidence against then-President Cristina Fernández, whom he accused of conspiring with Iran to cover up its alleged involvement in a 1994 bombing of a Jewish community center in Buenos Aires.

Allies of the former president insist Nisman died by suicide. But the opposition has long contended that he was murdered or was instigated to kill himself.

In a television interview Wednesday night, Fernández staunchly defended the vice president, who faces corruption charges related to public works contracts awarded during her 2007-2015 administration. This week, prosecutor

Diego Luciani called for a 12-year sentence against the former president.

Fernández was asked how he interpreted a recent request by the Supreme Court to increase security for judges and prosecutors "because there's always the memory of Nisman."

Fernández said it was ridiculous to "promote the idea that what happened to Nisman can happen to prosecutor Luciani" and then he went further, saying that "So far, what happened to Nisman is that he committed suicide; nothing else has been proven until now."

"I hope prosecutor Luciani doesn't do something like that," he added.

Nisman's death under mysterious circumstances has

become a source of frenzied speculation in Argentina with the issue falling squarely into the country's deep divisions between supporters and critics of the former president.

The legal investigation of Nisman's death remains open. Judge Julián Ercolini indicted one suspect in late 2017 as having been a "necessary participant" in Nisman's death, which he is investigating as a murder. Others have been indicted as well.

Many opposition leaders and members of the judiciary were quick to condemn Fernández, who defended his words Thursday morning, saying there "has been an enormous misrepresentation of what I said." □

Baby Beach Waterfront Promenade project continues



ORANJESTAD – Yesterday morning, minister of Tourism and Public Health, Mr. Dangui Oduber together with CEO of A.T.A., Mrs. Ronella Croes as well as director of DOW, Mr. Marlon Croes gave an update regarding the continuation of the Baby Beach Waterfront Promenade project, which forms part of the master plan for the area of Sero Colorado.

According to the minister, these projects will elevate the area around these beaches while taking into consideration the importance of nature conservation, creating development to beautify the area in a sustainable manner.

The project continuation will include different aspects, among others, Baby Beach will get a completely new parking area, which is also part of this plan. Consecutively public bathrooms will be made available for all visitors, as well as two kiosks where people will be able to buy food and drink. The goal is for these kiosks to reflect Aruban culture and sell typical foods from the Caribbean. Also the tennis courts will be fixed in order to have a multifunctional sports area.

There will also be facilities available to practice beachsports like beach tennis and beach volleyball.

Minister Oduber created a commission for the tourism infrastructural project which is lead by the Ministry of Tourism. This commission will work closer to the Department of Infrastructure and Planning, DIP, so that the policy that was created for the beach can be implemented. This development is sustainable, and thus it was decided that in the context of this project, a lot of palm trees will be planted to provide shade in order to limit the construction of palapas on the beach.

Oduber also reminded the people that in the context of this project, specifications are already available to be bought at DOW for 350 florins. On the 31st of August, DOW will provide more specific information regarding the scope of this project, and consequently the public offer will take place on the 9th of September at DOW.

Tourism is the main driver of our economy, and this is why its development remains a priority. "This government stands for quality tourism, the tourists that come for quality and to contribute to our economy. This is why it is important to continue investing in the product Aruba. These projects will bring more activity to San Nicolas in order to ensure more tourists come to San Nicolas to create more economic activity. San Nicolas has all the potential to receive its fair share in the development of our country."

Minister Oduber said he is convinced that this project will act as a catalyst for every other private sector project which will come later in this area. This project is possible thanks to great team work and cooperation between the ministry of Tourism, A.T.A., DOW and DIP, according to the minister, and it is an important project for the area of Sero Colorado which is also being developed. □





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With outstanding hospitality and just-right annual vacations Caribbean Palm Village Resort represents a great value with its unique vacation community



NOORD, Aruba – The mood is often joyful at the Caribbean Palm Village Resort (CPVR) as members and loyal guests return each year to share the special bond of a community formed over years of visits to their own special spot in Aruba. With a 35-year history of providing just-right annual vacations and facilitating flourishing lifelong friendships, CPVR is a beloved vacation ownership property where the daily meet-up poolside in spacious, palm-lined courtyards is a favorite part of the stay.

This private, full service resort offers a tranquil, secluded spot, where easy familiarity, high spirits, and laughter mark the strength and vibrancy of Caribbean Palm Village Resort's very special ambiance. Friendliness among fellow members and guests as well as employees remains a regular staple of a CPVR stay, often aided by activities coordinator Mislady Fingal, who is always ready to share her high energy and infectious positive mood.



"We are a tight-knit, welcoming group here. You see this every day and especially on check-out days, when the ritual of departure includes warm goodbyes and hugs before heading to the airport," remarks one owner who has happily owned at the CPVR for three decades. "There are many different types of resorts in Aruba, but we love to stay at CPVR because it is an unhurried atmosphere with all the service perks of a regular resort. We never have to fight to get a pool lounge, and there's always an opportunity to relax among friends and enjoy the resort amenities as well as enjoy access to the many great restaurants and activities nearby."

This Noord-based timeshare resort offers a peaceful home base that is only a short drive from Aruba's bustling high-rise Palm Beach area, and continues to deliver happiness daily and countless treasured memories over the long term. Its unique, intimate resort environment continues features the largest suites in Aruba as well as two large pools in wide courtyard settings. It provides a private, attractive place to enjoy Aruba's cooling winds and ever-present sun for a truly idyllic vacation experience.

The suites offerings, available in Studio, One-Bedroom and Two-Bedroom are spacious and allow owners and guests a comfortable environment with the convenience of fully equipped kitchens. The property also features several BBQ areas and an on-property restaurant as well as bar areas both by the restaurant and right by the pool for swim-up service. The attractions are not limited to the property with concierge services offered through its Activities Department. All-in-all, it provides an excellent option for

an Aruba stay at a great value.

Everyday reunions, activities and interactions among members, guests and employees remain a constant at this well-established happy place on one happy island. Caribbean Palm Village Resort is located off Palm Beach Road at Noord 43-E, and remains a welcoming community for long-time visitors as well as first time guests alike. Feel free to check it out with a visit and a chat with the on-property Sales Associate Laura Croes, or give her a call in Aruba at Tel: 526-2883 or from the US: 786-672-0384. □



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Honoring of loyal visitors at Boardwalk Boutique Hotel Aruba



EAGLE BEACH □ Recently, Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure in honoring many loyal Aruba visitors with their distinctive certificates. These certificates are a way to say “Masha Danki” for continuously choosing Aruba as a favorite vacation destination. The titles are as following: 10+ years “Distinguished Visitor”, 20+ years “Goodwill Ambassador” and 36+ years “Emerald Ambassador”.

The honorees are Sienna Christine Lawrence who is resident of New York, United States as a Goodwill Ambassador.


This symbolic honorary title is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba between the 10-20-35 and more consecutive year mark.

The wonderful visitor's top reasons provided for returning were the most vibrant sunsets, the crystal clear water, shipwreck and underwater life that serves as the ideal diving destination in the Caribbean, the local friendliness, the dreamy white sandy beaches and the array of food options from authentic Caribbean dishes to Dutch pancakes.

Ms. Olga Ruiz & Ms. Kimberly Richardson representing the Aruba Tourism Authority and members of the Boardwalk Boutique Hotel Aruba bestowed the certificate of the Goodwill Ambassador to the honoree, handed some presents and thanked her for choosing Aruba as her vacation destination and as her home away from home for so many years. □



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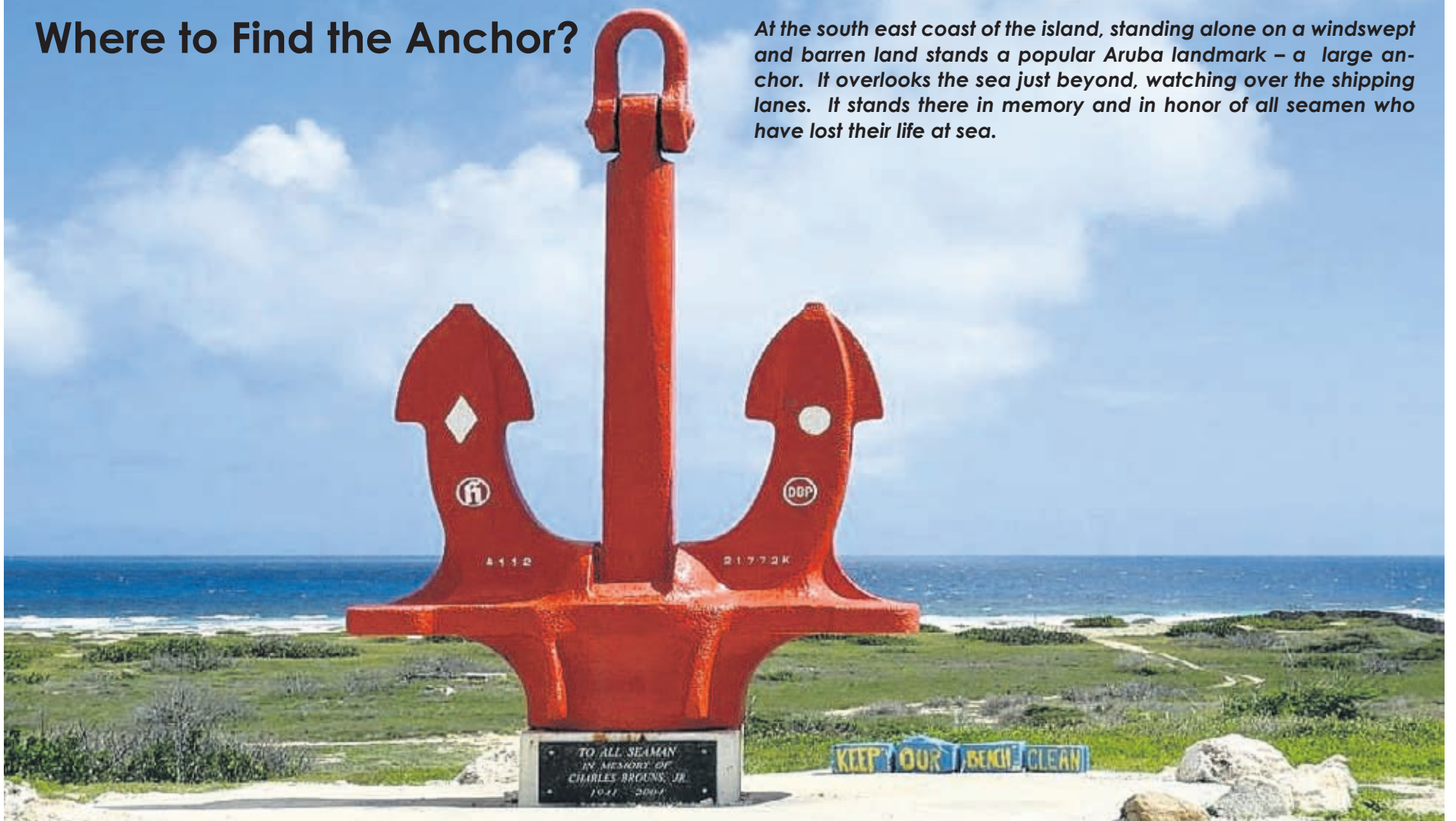


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Where to Find the Anchor?

At the south east coast of the island, standing alone on a windswept and barren land stands a popular Aruba landmark – a large anchor. It overlooks the sea just beyond, watching over the shipping lanes. It stands there in memory and in honor of all seamen who have lost their life at sea.



The anchor is a “must see” landmark when you visit Aruba. It is among the most photographed historical landmarks for the island. You want to make sure you add this stop on your itinerary when your visiting the south coast of Aruba. The bright red anchor against the backdrop of the deep blue Caribbean sea and the azure blue skies, make a great backdrop for your vacation pictures.

The anchor is located at the entrance to Gate 6 to the former Lago Colony. It is on the outskirts of Seroe Colorado, on the south east point of the island at the “T” junction to Baby Beach. Depending on where you are staying on the island, follow the signs that indicate the way to Baby Beach. Once you reach the T-junction, it will be right in front of you.

About the Anchor Size

It will be hard to miss the anchor, it's huge! The anchor that weighs 21,772 kilos, is approximately 10 feet 6 inches wide and 15 feet, 6 inches tall.

On the anchor there are some numbers. The 4112 and 4115, which are believed to be the serial numbers that refer to the “fluke” or horizontal and vertical parts of the anchor, respectively. The number 21772K refers to the weight of the anchor in kilos.

This type of anchor was manufactured by Hoesch Dortmund Horde, at a foundry located in Germany.

Where did the Anchor Come From?

There are a number of stories as to the origins of the anchor, which one do you think it was? (Unfortunately the mystery has never been solved, so your imagination can pick which one you think it might be!)

Story 1:

“According to Mr. Manuel M. Curiel, an ex-

Lago Tug Captain, a fully laden VLCC (Very Large Crude Carrier) was seeking a mooring at the 15-mile anchorage, known as Bara, on the southern part of the island. This is the usual shallow mooring location for ships awaiting orders, etc. The weather was rough with strong current. The normal procedure is that they would walk out three shackles (about 90 feet) until the anchor touches the bottom while the chain must rest on the bottom. Subsequently, they will walk out some extra shackles and when the ship starts to swing or lean on one side, the anchor is properly set. Because of the rough weather, unfortunately they did not get the time to walk out the extra tackles and because of the tension exerted on the winch, it broke, and they lost the anchor and its chain.”

Story 2:

“Mr. Curiel also said that at one time a small tanker with a Korean crew, while lifting their anchor also lifted another anchor near the inner harbor. When the ship asked for assistance, he went with his tugboat along with a barge, to help. But eventually they had to cut the chain and let the anchor go to the bottom because they could not untangle them.”

How Did The Anchor Become a Landmark?

Sometime between 1980 and 1985, three gentlemen (Mr. Wim Martinus – the Harbormaster of Aruba; Mr. August Genser – the ex-Division Superintendent of Lago's Laboratory; and Mr. Willie Davis – Owner of Filtec at Zeewijk in San Nicolas), were having a conversation with Mr. Charlie Brouns Jr. at his famous Charlie's Bar and Restaurant in San Nicolas. Charlie, who was a visionary and had dreams for developing the San Nicolas area, told these gentlemen that he would like to come up with something innovative for the San Nicolas area to draw tourism to the area.

The “anchor”, which at that time was being stored at the Oranjestad harbor, was suggest-

ed as an option. Charlie liked the idea! He then contacted the President of Lago for permission to acquire the anchor. He was granted permission and the anchor was then relocated to its present location and dedicated “To All Seamen” on the occasion of the closing of the Lago Oil Refinery on March 31, 1985.

Through the Years

Through the years the Anchor was slowly weathering from the wind and salt. As time passed, sadly the origin and purpose of the anchor slowly faded away from people's memories.

After Chralies Brouns Jr died on September 15, 2004, his friend Mr. Sam Speziale, requested assistance from the management of Valero Aruba Refinery to help maintain the monument. The Valero Aruba Refinery, graciously sand-blasted and painted the anchor and poured a concrete pad around it. On April 17, 2005, the anchor monument was rededicated “To All Seamen” in a formal ceremony in memory of Charlaes Brouns Jr.

Today, the anchor stands both as memorial to all seaman who have lost their lives at sea, but also as a silent reminder that Seroe Colorado is part of San Nicolas and that San Nicolas is still a vibrant and important part of the island of Aruba.

The Best Time to Visit

When your planning your visit to the south end of the island, you will want to include in your itinerary the many things to see and do there. The anchor will be just one of these stops, (I will recommend other places below). With that being said, I have to say, if you enjoy catching a sunrise, the anchor is one of the best places on the island to catch the sunrise. But in reality, anytime is a good time to visit, depending on your personal schedule.☐

Department of Nature and Environment: Detecting Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease in Aruba

The Department of Nature and Environment (DNM) wishes to share important information regarding a phenomenon taking place in the marine life in certain dive sites in the Caribbean islands, and particularly there is worry in Bonaire about the presence of this coral disease.

The name of the disease affecting the corals is Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease (SCTLD). The department is worried because the disease is very aggressive and can be deadly for the colony of corals, and thus affects the quality of our marine life in the region.

In this article, DNM wishes to explain what this disease does to corals, how it manifested in Bonaire, how it is transmitted, and what we can do to prevent it here in Aruba in order to help mitigate the problem.

What does SCTLD do?

Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease destroys the soft tissue that covers coral, and can affect 30 types of coral that exist in the marine life which are the ones forming and growing our reefs. When the disease attacks the coral, the result can be fatal because it can kill an entire colony of coral in only a few weeks or months after infection.

It can affect the coral severely. SCTLD is considered the most dangerous and deadly among coral diseases, and it manifests rather quickly. It must not be confused with coral bleaching, these are two different phenomenon.

DNM noted that almost a year ago Bonaire published information regarding the disease and its spread in the Caribbean and Florida. Back then, STINAPA (non-governmental organization responsible for the management of the national parks on Bonaire) mentioned during a webinar that they still hadn't found any corals with the disease in their waters, but



in Aruba there is a case of suspected infection. Aruba itself did not receive a notification of this alert.

In 2021, Bonaire also prepared a plan for the possible arrival of SCTLD focused on prevention in order to mitigate problems which could arise. The organization that manages the marine park in Bonaire, STINAPA published an article alerting the community and with the help of the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA) some decisions were made to mitigate the problem. They alerted the visitors on how to use the marine

park, but inevitably the disease manifested at two diving sites. After carrying out investigations this past 22 and 23 of July, Bonaire closed two diving sites, one being Karpata and the other La Dania's Leap, as a consequence of the presence of SCTLD.

How is the disease transmitted?

The disease can be transmitted in the water contaminated with the disease, for example, in ballast water in big cargo ships. Ballast water is the water that was used to balance the boat when it's unloading weight. The disease can also pene-

trate diving gear or snorkel gear which is used in waters containing the disease.

What can be done to mitigate the disease?

Two things are recommended: disinfect diving gear and alert authorities if any strange phenomenon is noticed on the corals. For the first step of disinfecting diving gear, it is recommended to put the gear in drinking water containing 1% bleach solution, and for sensitive gear, this can be left for 10 minutes in a disinfectant solution appropriate for the gear. It is necessary to let it dry before transporting and using it in

other waters, for example, another site where the disease is not present.

The second step requires informing the authorities managing Aruba's marine park, the National Park Arikok Foundation, as well as DNM. If you notice weird or suspicious coral, try to take a picture of these and send it to info@dnm-aruba.org, as well as information about the photographer. If possible, give authorization to use the picture to be included in investigations to help prevent the spread of SCTLD in our waters in Aruba.

What DNM finds important is detection in the earlier phases, in order to be able to take action to mitigate the problem. Doing nothing is not an option because it would mean the loss of a huge amount of coral.

DNM is pending particularly on diving schools, divers, fishermen and water activity centers for information. The information collected from Bonaire is available on the webpage of STINAPA. They also did a very informative webinar on the topic of Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease in 2021, and this can also be found on their YouTube channel, as well as shared on the social media of the DNM. □



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 40 Mythical weeper
 - 41 Until now
 - 6 Fire
 - 43 Fashion
 - 44 TV's De-Genres
 - 11 Clear sky
 - 12 Kick in
 - 13 Very thin
 - 14 Sum of one's actions
 - 15 Capitol Bldg. figure
 - 16 Ohio college
 - 18 Numerical prefix
 - 19 "Gnarly!"
 - 20 Conclude
 - 21 Hiker's burden
 - 23 Blackjack call
 - 25 Young one
 - 27 Some answers
 - 28 Make fresh
 - 30 Rocker Collins
 - 33 Brooks of film
 - 34 Baseball's Ripken
 - 36 Purpose
 - 37 Shipping ban
 - 39 Monk's title

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B	E	E	R	S				O	D	D	S

Yesterday's answer

- DOWN**
- 7 Flag
 - 28 Sends, as payment
 - 1 Bungle
 - 8 Colson
 - 29 Funny fellow
 - 2 Goddess of wisdom
 - Whitehead
 - 31 Jordan neighbor
 - 3 Colson
 - 9 Kingly fur
 - 32 Gets wise
 - 10 Position
 - 33 High-IQ group
 - 17 Derisive cry
 - 35 Sad sack
 - 22 Relatives
 - 38 Skilled
 - 5 Goof
 - 24 Spinning toy
 - 42 Flamenco cry
 - 6 Did a butler's job
 - 26 Flats

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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33			34	35	36				
37			38		39				
40				41	42				
43				44					
45				46					

8-26

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

8-26

CRYPTOQUOTE

R H R I K L U E K U D L R

O R Y P R D L H U C B R E J Q A O

C Q R O L — T U C P B B L X V L Q M

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: WE MUST HAVE PIE. STRESS CANNOT EXIST IN THE PRESENCE OF A PIE. DAVID MAMET

Inflation is driving Americans to bargain chain stores

By ANNE D'INNOCENZIO

AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Dollar Tree and Dollar General reported rising sales in the second quarter as four-decade high inflation drove more customers to bargain chain stores for everything from lightbulbs to groceries. Dollar stores tend to sell items in small quantities, not big packages, allowing low-income customers to buy a little at a time.

As with previous recessions, higher income shoppers are returning to bargain chains as they trade down to cut spending where they can.

But Dollar Tree and Dollar General are also grappling with rising costs that are rippling through their supply chains. Profits are being squeezed as shoppers narrow their focus on necessities like groceries, which have more narrow profit margins.

Dollar Tree, based in Ches-



A clerk brings in a shopping basket at a Dollar Tree store in Richland, Miss., Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2019.

Associated Press

apeake, Virginia, reported second-quarter profits that exceeded expectations though sales were a bit shy of projections. It cut its profit expectations for the year and narrowed its sales projections.

Dollar Tree is still trying to incorporate the Family Dollar business that it acquired in 2015.

"Inflation is at its highest in

decades as shoppers are experiencing higher costs related to food, fuel, rent and more," Richard Dreiling, the company's executive chairman, said on a conference call Thursday. "Supply chains have been strained and inconsistent. Inventory levels are higher across retail, and consumer shopping patterns continue to zig and zag." □

Amazon to shutter virtual health care service Amazon Care

NEW YORK (AP) — Amazon is shutting down the hybrid virtual, in-home care service it's spent years developing, a surprising move that underscores the challenges it faces as it moves into health care.

The service, called Amazon Care, will end by Dec. 31,

according to an email sent to staff by Neil Lindsay, senior vice president of Amazon Health Services.

Amazon Care was launched in 2019 for Seattle-based Amazon's Washington state employees, who served as trial users before the company

made it available last year to its workers in all 50 states. The service connects patients virtually with doctors and nurses who can provide treatment 24 hours a day. It does not have physical locations, but offers in-person services for things like vaccinations and flu testing in several cities, including Seattle and Washington, D.C.

Amazon's decision to pull the plug on Amazon Care is even more surprising given the company said in February it was planning to expand the in-person care service to include 20 additional cities.

Last summer, Amazon also began offering the service to private employers nationwide.

In the email sent to staff, Lindsay wrote that Amazon listened to feedback from employers and worked to improve Amazon Care. □



An Amazon logo appears on a delivery van, Oct. 1, 2020, in Boston. Amazon is shutting down the hybrid virtual, in-home care service it's spent years developing. The service, called Amazon Care, will end by Dec. 31, 2022.

Associated Press

Food commodity prices slim down over the summer

By **DAMIAN J. TROISE**
AP Business Writer

The price of wheat, corn and other commodities that make up the basis for much of the world's food supply fell sharply over the summer.

It's a welcome signal for consumers dealing with high grocery bills and investors hoping to see inflation loosen its grip on the broader economy. Wheat prices are down roughly 40% and corn prices have slipped about 25% since the spring.

"It should help, it's just a question of how long that is sustainable," said Tom Martin, senior portfolio manager with Globalt Investments. "As we slow down, and the economy seems generally to be slower, you get less inflationary pressures."

Surging food and energy prices have fueled the hottest inflation in four decades this year. Steady demand combined with constricted supplies started inflation on its upward path. Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February worsened things by choking off production and exports of wheat and other crops, along with oil and natural gas.

Now prices are falling as supply and demand start to balance out amid the global economic slowdown. Ukraine and Russia have reached a deal on grain exports, helping to further ease global supply shortages. Ukraine exports roughly 10% of the world's wheat and corn.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture forecasts higher wheat production this year and the potential for a record soybean harvest.

Falling commodity prices could also help major food producers, which have been dealing with higher costs to make things like cereal and other packaged foods. Both Conagra and Mondelez have seen profit margins fall over the last several quarters.

Conagra CEO Sean Connolly said another cycle of extreme inflation would likely push down margins,



Fields of corn wait for harvest on a farm Friday, Oct. 8, 2021, near Garretson, S.D.

Associated Press

but slowing inflation or deflation could lift profits to the higher end of the company's target.

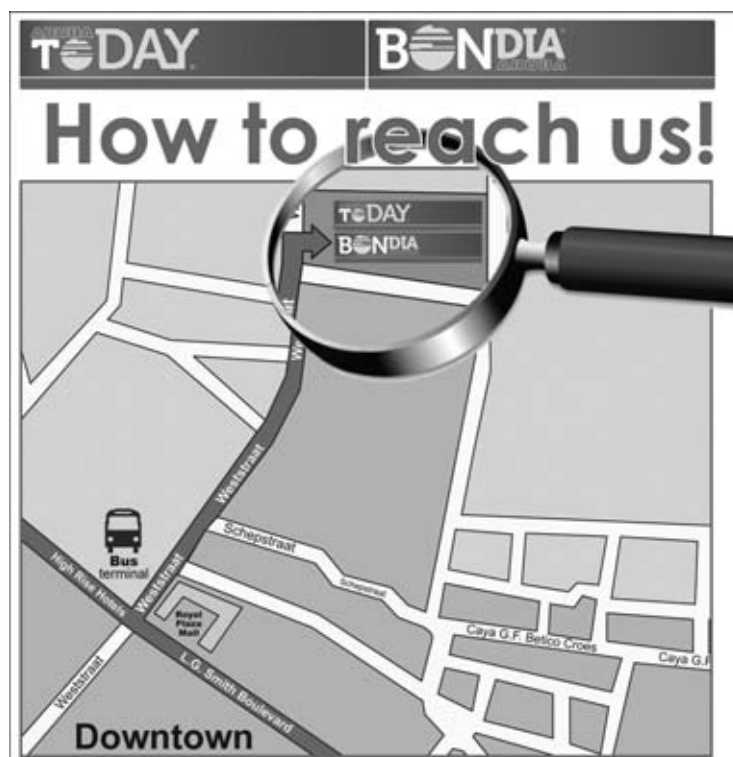
"These are volatile times," he told investors in a conference call, following the company's most recent financial results. "So we can't tell you exactly where we will land."

Investors are closely watching falling commodity prices as they try and gauge inflation's path forward and whether the Federal Re-

serve will ease up on its aggressive interest rate hikes. The U.S. economy shrank during the first half of 2022, but consumer spending remains solid and unemployment is at a record low.

The Fed has signaled that it intends to continue raising interest rates until it is sure that inflation is starting to cool off. Wall Street is hoping that a sustained drop in commodity prices, from energy to food, will result in inflation peaking and start-

ing to cool. □



ARUBA
TODAY

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Weather whiplash: Summer lurches from drought to flood

BY SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

Parts of northern Texas, mired in a drought labeled as extreme and exceptional, are flooding under torrential rain. In a drought. Sound familiar? It should. The Dallas region is just the latest drought-suffering-but-flooded locale during a summer of extreme weather whiplash, likely goosed by human-caused climate change, scientists say. Parts of the world are lurching from drought to deluge. The St. Louis area and 88% of Kentucky early in July were considered abnormally dry and then the skies opened up, the rain poured in biblical proportions, inch after inch, and deadly flooding devastated communities. The same thing happened in Yellowstone in June. Earlier this month, Death Valley, in a severe drought, got a near record amount of rainfall in one day, causing floods, and is still in a nasty drought. China's Yangtze River is drying up, a year after deadly flooding. China is baking under what is a record-long heat wave, already into its third month, with a preliminary report of an overnight low temperature only dipping down to 94.8 degrees (34.9 degrees Celsius) in the heavily populated city of Chongqing. And in western China flooding from a sud-



Members of the Balch Springs Fire Department bring a family of four by boat to higher ground after rescuing them from their home along Forest Glen Lane in Batch Springs, Texas, Aug. 22, 2022.
Associated Press

den downpour has killed more than a dozen people. In the Horn of Africa in the midst of a devastating but oft-ignored famine and drought, nearby flash floods add to the humanitarian disaster unfolding. Europe, which suffered through unprecedented flooding last year, has baked with record heat compounded by a 500-year drought that is drying up rivers and threatening power supplies. "So we really have had a lot of whiplash," said Kentucky's interim climatologist Megan Schargorodski. "It is really difficult to emotion-

ally go through all of these extremes and get through it and figure out how to be resilient through the disaster after disaster that we see." In just two weeks in late July and early August, the U.S. had 10 downpours that are only supposed to happen 1% of the time — sometimes called 1-in-100-year storms — calculated Weather Prediction Center forecast branch chief Greg Carbin. That's not counting the Dallas region, a likely 1-in-1,000-year storm, where some places got more than 9 inches of rain in 24 hours ending Monday

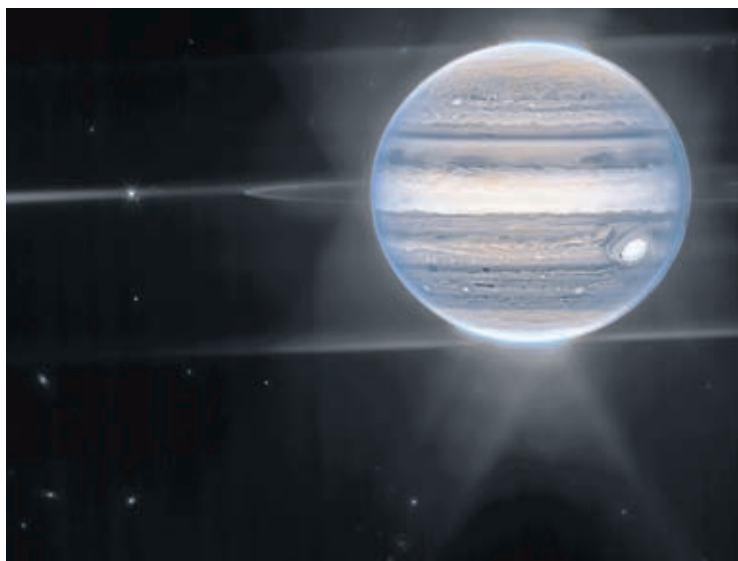
with several inches more forecast to come. "These extremes of course are getting more extreme," said National Center for Atmospheric Research climate scientist Gerald Meehl, who wrote some of the first studies 18 years ago about extreme weather and climate change. "This is in line with what we expected." Weather whiplash, "where all of a sudden it changes to the opposite" extreme, is becoming more noticeable because it's so strange, said climate scientist Jennifer Francis of the Woodwell Climate Re-

search Center in Falmouth, Massachusetts. She is in the middle of a study of whiplash events.

The scientists at World Weather Attribution, mostly volunteers who quickly examine extreme weather for a climate change fingerprint, have a strict criteria of events to investigate: they have to be record-breaking, cause a significant number of deaths, or impact at least 1 million people. So far this year they've been swamped. There have been 41 events — eight floods, three storms, eight droughts, 18 heat waves and four cold waves — that have reached that threshold point, said WWA official Julie Arrighi, associate director of the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Center.

In the United States, many of the big heavy summer rains are traditionally connected to hurricanes or tropical systems, like last year's Hurricane Ida that smacked Louisiana and then plowed through the South until it flooded the New York, New Jersey region with record rainfall rates.

But this July and August, the nation had been hit with "an overabundance of non-tropical related extreme rainfall," the National Weather Service's Carbin said. "That's unusual." □



This image provided by NASA shows a false color composite image of Jupiter obtained by the James Webb Space Telescope on July 27, 2022.

Associated Press

By MARCIA DUNN
AP Aerospace Writer
CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)

— The world's newest and biggest space telescope is showing Jupiter as never

New space telescope shows Jupiter's auroras, tiny moons

before, auroras and all. Scientists released the shots Monday of the solar system's biggest planet. The James Webb Space Telescope took the photos in July, capturing unprecedented views of Jupiter's northern and southern lights, and swirling polar haze. Jupiter's Great Red Spot, a storm big enough to swallow Earth, stands out brightly alongside countless smaller storms. One wide-field picture is particularly dramatic, showing the faint rings around the planet, as well

as two tiny moons against a glittering background of galaxies. "We've never seen Jupiter like this. It's all quite incredible," said planetary astronomer Imke de Pater, of the University of California, Berkeley, who helped lead the observations. "We hadn't really expected it to be this good, to be honest," she added in a statement. The infrared images were artificially colored in blue, white, green, yellow and orange, according to the U.S.-French research team,

to make the features stand out. NASA and the European Space Agency's \$10 billion successor to the Hubble Space Telescope rocketed away at the end of last year and has been observing the cosmos in the infrared since summer. Scientists hope to behold the dawn of the universe with Webb, peering all the way back to when the first stars and galaxies were forming 13.7 billion years ago. The observatory is positioned 1 million miles (1.6 million kilometers) from Earth. □

Unvaccinated Djokovic out of U.S. Open; can't travel to States



In this Sept. 12, 2021, file photo, Novak Djokovic, of Serbia, returns a shot to Daniil Medvedev, of Russia, during the men's singles final of the U.S. Open tennis championships in New York.

Associated Press

By **BRIAN MAHONEY**
AP Basketball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Novak Djokovic will not play in the U.S. Open, as expected, because he is not vaccinated against COVID-19 and thus is not allowed to travel to the United States. Djokovic announced his withdrawal from the year's last Grand Slam tournament on Twitter on Thursday, hours before the draw for the event was revealed. "Sadly, I will not be able to travel to NY this time for US Open," Djokovic wrote, wishing luck to his fellow players, and said he would "keep in good shape and positive spirit and wait for an opportunity to compete again."

Play is scheduled to begin at Flushing Meadows on Monday.

Djokovic is a 35-year-old from Serbia who owns 21 major championships, one behind Rafael Nadal for the men's record. Three of Djokovic's Slam trophies came at the U.S. Open, in 2011, 2015 and 2018.

He also was the runner-up there a half-dozen times, including last season, when his pursuit of the first calendar-year Grand Slam in men's tennis since 1969 ended with a loss in the final to Daniil Medvedev.

Foreign citizens who have not been vaccinated

against COVID-19 are currently unable to enter the U.S. or Canada, and Djokovic has said he won't get the shots, even if that prevents him from playing in certain tournaments. The U.S. Tennis Association has said all along it will follow government rules about vaccination status for this year's Open. There is no vaccine mandate at the tournament for players or their support teams — meaning that an unvaccinated American would be allowed to compete — and spectators will not be required to wear masks.

"Novak is a great champion and it is very unfortunate that he will be unable to compete at the 2022 U.S. Open, as he is unable to enter the country due to the federal government's vaccination policy for non-U.S. citizens," said Stacey Allaster, the U.S. Open tournament director. "We look forward to welcoming Novak back at the 2023 U.S. Open."

Djokovic missed the Australian Open in January after a protracted legal saga ended with his deportation from that country because he isn't vaccinated against COVID-19. He also sat out four significant tournaments in North America in 2022, including in Montreal

and Cincinnati recently. He did play in the French Open, where he lost in the quarterfinals to Nadal, and at Wimbledon, where Djokovic won the title. After beating Nick Kyrgios in the Wimbledon final on July 10, Djokovic said he "would love" to participate in the last Grand Slam tournament of the year at Flushing Meadows, but he also acknowledged, "I'm not planning to get vaccinated."

About three weeks later, Djokovic posted on social media that he was holding out hope of getting the chance to play in the U.S. Open, writing: "I am preparing as if I will be allowed to compete, while I await to hear if there is any room for me to travel to US. Fingers crossed!"

Djokovic has spent more weeks at No. 1 than anyone else in the history of the ATP rankings. He is No. 6 this week, in part because no rankings points were awarded at Wimbledon this year.

Among the other players who will not be at the U.S. Open for various reasons are No. 2-ranked Alexander Zverev, the 2020 runner-up in New York; 2016 champion Angelique Kerber; 2019 French Open finalist Marketa Vondrousova; Gael Monfils and Reilly Opelka. □



Australian rider Jay Vine from Alpecin Deceuninck team celebrates after winning the 6th stage of the Vuelta cycling race between Bilbao and Pico Jano - San Miguel de Aguayo, northern Spain, Thursday, Aug. 25, 2022.

Associated Press

Evenepoel takes Vuelta's red jersey as Roglic moves closer

BILBAO, Spain (AP) — Remco Evenepoel took the leader's red jersey on a wet and cold day at the Spanish Vuelta on Thursday, while Jay Wine overcame a flat tire to win the sixth stage and defending champion Primož Roglic moved closer to the top.

Evenepoel was second to Wine after a tough final climb, enough to put him 21 seconds ahead of previous overall leader Rudy Molard and 28 seconds in front of Enric Mas, who was third in a foggy finish on Thursday.

"I'm proud to be leader. It's a big dream come true," said Evenepoel, who rides for team Quick-Step Alpha Vinyl. "This is the reason why I've been working so hard for so long. What I showed today is maybe one of the best things I did on a bike. In an uphill finish to put such a strong performance thanks to the team is a dream come true."

Evenepoel is the first Belgian leader of the Vuelta since Dylan Teuns took the red jersey after the sixth stage of the race in 2019.

Roglic, the Jumbo-Visma rider going for a fourth straight Vuelta title, was more than four minutes off the lead entering the sixth stage. He moved to within about a minute of Evenepoel with a strong run on Thursday. Wine, the Australian from team Alpecin-Deceuninck, had a flat tire less than five kilometers (three miles) into the stage but recovered and made it back to the front to win his first Grand Tour stage.

"It's almost unreal," Wine said. "It's a dream come true. I was able to manage my effort and pace the climb pretty handily. (In the last kilometer) I thought about my wife who's basically done everything for me in the last three or four years to get me to this point." Jan Hirt had to withdraw because of a positive test for the coronavirus.

The seventh stage will feature a mid-mountain route of nearly 200 kilometers (125 miles) on Friday. □

Woods, McIlroy behind tech-infused golf league in TV venture

By **DOUG FERGUSON**

AP Golf Writer

ATLANTA (AP) — Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy are bringing their own version of team golf to the PGA Tour.

A day after Woods and McIlroy announced a new media venture called TMRW Sports, they unveiled a project Wednesday that involves 18 players competing in a series of matches featuring technology as much as shot-making.

It's called "TGL," a tech-infused golf league that will be held in a stadium built for the occasion where fans can watch three-man teams compete in an 18-hole match — using simulators for the long shots, live shots for the shorter ones — that will take only two hours.

The league is to start in January 2024 and feature 15 regular-season matches on Monday nights, followed by the semifinals and the finals.

"For the fans, think sitting courtside at an NBA game. It's that type of environment — music, player introductions. You're right on top of the action as a fan," said Mike McCarley, the former Golf Channel president who formed TMRW Sports with Woods and Mc-



Rory McIlroy, of Northern Ireland, listens to a question during a press conference at East Lake Golf Club prior to the start of the Tour Championship golf tournament Wednesday Aug 24, 2022, in Atlanta, Ga.

Associated Press

Ilroy and is its CEO. "You see everything play out in front of you."

TMRW Sports — pronounced "tomorrow" — was formed to build technology-focused projects with a progressive approach to sports, entertainment and media.

Among the investors is Dick Ebersol, the retired chairman of NBC Sports whose many contribution to sports on TV include Sunday Night Football. He worked with

McCarley at NBC.

"Since I've retired, I've refused any real work besides giving advice for plenty of friends, but this is the right idea at the right time with one of the few people I would do this with," Ebersol said. The announcement was lacking many details, including a broadcast partner, though NBC is a likely candidate given its relationship with the PGA Tour and with Ebersol and McCarley. Also, McIlroy has

a deal with the "GolfPass" venture in conjunction with Golf Channel.

Still to be determined are the 18 players on the six teams and when the matches will be held, though a majority figure to be the week of elevated events also announced Wednesday for the new PGA Tour schedule that starts next year.

"As a big sports fan myself, I'm excited about blending golf with technology and

team elements common in other sports," Woods said in a statement. "We all know what it's like to be in a football stadium or a basketball arena where you can watch every play, every minute of action unfold right in front of you. It's something that inherently isn't possible in traditional golf." Woods previously was involved in real golf on Monday night when he was part of the "Showdown at Sherwood" and "Battle at Bighorn." That faded within a decade, though the Monday night spot on the sports calendar from January to August is attractive. Woods played only three times — all majors — this year as he recovers from leg injuries suffered in a February 2021 car crash. But he will be playing in the TGL and won't have to walk far.

"We don't know what his schedule is going to be. We don't know how his body is going to be," McIlroy said. "But to be able to see him still showcase his skills on prime time on TV without really any wear and tear on his body, to be able to see Tiger hit golf shots and still sort of provide people with a glimpse of his genius, I think it is a really good use of his time." □



Minnesota Timberwolves guard Patrick Beverley, right, controls the ball against Memphis Grizzlies guard Ja Morant, left, in the second half during Game 5 of a first-round NBA basketball playoff series April 26, 2022, in Memphis, Tenn.

Associated Press

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. (AP) — Patrick Beverley is returning to Los Angeles, this time joining LeBron James and the Lakers.

A fan favorite when he played for the Clippers,

Beverley was acquired from the Utah Jazz on Thursday in exchange for guard Talen Horton-Tucker and forward Stanley Johnson.

"Woke up a Laker!!!

Its On!!!" Beverley wrote in

Patrick Beverley returning to Los Angeles with Lakers

a Tweet that included purple and gold heart emojis. He averaged 9.2 points, 4.1 rebounds and 4.6 assists for Minnesota last season while starting 54 of 58 games and helping the Timberwolves make the playoffs.

He ended up in Utah as part of a multi-player deal when the Jazz sent Rudy Gobert to Minnesota in early July.

"We are thrilled to add Patrick Beverley's toughness and competitive spirit to our team," general manager Rob Pelinka said. "We're confident that Patrick's '3-and-D' style will fit in nicely with the other pieces of our roster and align perfectly with Coach (Darvin)

Ham's philosophy of hard work and smart play."

The 34-year-old guard from Chicago is known for his ferocious defense that makes him popular with home crowds and a thorn to opposing players.

The three-time NBA All-Defensive team member played for the Clippers from 2017-21 until he was traded to Memphis and then to the Wolves nine days later. "I used to hate Patrick Beverley when he played against my Lakers lol but now I love him because he's on our team and he's going to help my Lakers get to the playoffs!" tweeted Lakers great Magic John-

son.

Beverley played for Houston from 2012-17.

Horton-Tucker played three seasons with the Lakers, averaging 9.3 points, 2.8 rebounds and 2.6 assists in 131 games, mostly off the bench.

Johnson began last season with the South Bay Lakers of the NBA's developmental league before signing three separate 10-day contracts with the big-league club. He was signed by the Lakers for the rest of the season in late January.

In 48 games, he averaged 6.7 points, 3.2 rebounds and 1.7 assists. □